

STRIKE SEEMS TO BE NEARER NOW THAN ANY FORMER TIME

Railway Employees Agree To Accept President Wilson's Tentative Basis of Settlement But Heads of Lines Will Not Concur

ANOTHER CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD TODAY

Situation Has Never Been More Tense Since Workmen of Brotherhoods First Voted To Tie Up Transportation Arteries

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
WASHINGTON, August 19.—Representatives of the brotherhoods of railway employees yesterday informed President Wilson that they would accept his plan to bring at least temporary peace between the workers and the managers, the chief executive's proposal being that the men accept an eight-hour working day, leaving the matter of the time-and-a-half pay for overtime labor, and other issues, to be later decided by a special commission to be appointed by the President and Congress.

While the spokesmen for the four hundred and fifty thousand railway employees have thus exhibited a willingness to meet the situation half way and so appreciably defer any further possibility of a nationwide walkout on the part of the men, the railroad officials have not yet made their attitude one of final decision.

Threatened Strike Near

They have taken under advisement the President's proposal for the eight-hour day settlement, and a future determination in regard to other demands of the employees, and are in conference on the matter.

Indications last night, however, were that the officials will decide to refuse to concede anything. It is felt that when they render their decision today, it will be to announce that the plan of the President is rejected.

The railroad managers last night were undecided as to what stand they would eventually take. What may transpire within the next few days, with the President determined to try every possible means to bring the dispute to a peaceful settlement, can only be surmised, but surface indications are all pointing toward the probability that the threatened strike is nearer than ever.

Situation Never More Tense

The situation has not been more tense since last the strike was threatened and the brotherhoods, by an overwhelming majority, voted to strike, when the word should be given, unless the railroads should agree to an eight-hour day and time-and-a-half pay for overtime. There were thirty-one railroad chiefs in conference with President Wilson yesterday, the conference concluding with the declaration of the thirty-one that they fully agreed with the decision reached by their managers that an eight-hour day could not be considered, refusing to accede to the suggestion of the President to grant this demand of the railroad employees, leaving other demands to be settled later.

The President, however, would not accept their decision as final, inviting the managers to another conference to be held today. If this conference fails, an appeal will be made to the boards of directors of the various railroads, and the matter may even be put up to financial interests in control of the railroads.

CLEAR STATEMENT OF DIFFICULTIES
Declaring the threatened strike of railway employees throughout the United States would precipitate a national crisis which would result in the death of the union organizations participating, Edward Chambers, vice-president of the Santa Fe, has issued a clear and comprehensive statement of the difficulties existing between the road and the employees, who threaten to tie up the traffic of the nation until their demands are met.

"I believe I am speaking conservatively," said Mr. Chambers, "when I state that for the railway employees to strike under present conditions will be up commerce resulting in losses of hundreds of millions of dollars. Every business, tourist and even the government itself will be affected, and feel the loss keenly.

"The American public will stand for just so much monkeying, and no more. The employees of the railroads, who have had the sympathy of the public in the past and have used it to successfully further their own interests, have now exceeded beyond the limit.

PARALYSIS SAID TO BE ON WANE

During Last Seven Days There Has Been Heavy Decrease In Deaths

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
NEW YORK, August 19.—For the first time since the outbreak of the epidemic of infantile paralysis the health authorities yesterday expressed the belief that the seriousness of the situation was diminishing. An official statement was issued to the effect that the disease appeared to be on the wane. This declaration was made in connection with the publication of the preceding week's statistics for deaths and new cases.

During the last seven days the deaths have averaged thirty-two daily, as against a daily average of forty-two deaths for the week before. Yesterday there were only three and twenty-five new cases and thirty-two deaths.

The establishment of quarantine against this and neighboring states, where infantile paralysis is more or less prevalent, continues. The latest community to put up the bars against possible infection is West Virginia, which yesterday put into effect a quarantine against children under sixteen years of age entering West Virginia from New York, Pennsylvania or New Jersey.

Five prominent physicians have been named by the national health conference, in Washington, to act as a standing committee to study infantile paralysis, in an effort to discover a remedy. They will report all results of their research to both federal and state health authorities. The Washington health conference has issued a warning to the effect that it is possible that the disease may make its appearance in other states with the advent of hot weather next summer, unless some method of prevention is adopted. Some of the safeguards suggested are: regulation of travel between the states by the issuance of certificates, isolation of victims of infantile paralysis, and preventing children from congregating in large numbers.

DEUTSCHLAND REPORTED TO HAVE MADE HOME PORT

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
GENEVA, Switzerland, August 18.—A private telegram received by the Neue Zürcher Zeitung from its Berlin correspondent, says the submarine freighter Deutschland has eluded the vigilance of the Allies' warships and arrived safely at Bremen, Germany.

MEXICAN REVOLUTIONISTS HOLD UP PASSENGER TRAIN

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
EL PASO, August 19.—A band of sixty Mexican revolutionists, according to dispatches received here yesterday, held up a passenger train on the Mexican National Railway, near the city of Augustus Calientes, in the state of that name. Twenty-five Carranzistas, who were escorting the train, were taken prisoners.

MARQUIS CREWE HEADS BOARD OF EDUCATION

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
LONDON, August 19.—Robert Offley Ashburton Crewe-Milnes, Marquis Crewe, former secretary of state for India, and who was secretary of state for the colonies, 1908-10, author of Stray Verses and articles on Ireland, fifty-eight years of age, has been appointed president of the board of education.

SHIPPING BILL PASSES SENATE BY PARTY VOTE

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
WASHINGTON, August 19.—The administration's shipping bill yesterday passed the senate on a strictly party vote of thirty-eight to twenty-one. An attempt made by Senator Borah to attach the immigration bill as a rider to the shipping measure, was defeated by a vote of thirty-seven to twenty-two.

PACIFIC MAIL SERVICE TO RESUME AUGUST 27

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
SAN FRANCISCO, August 19.—The Pacific Mail Steamship Company will resume its Trans-Pacific service on the twenty-seventh of this month with the sailing of the steamship Ecuador.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY POSTPONES ITS OPENING

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
PRINCETON, August 19.—The opening of Princeton University has been postponed from September 26 to October 10 as a precautionary measure due to the prevalence of infantile paralysis.

He implied by his statements that any new franchise bill brought up in the future must include women.

HUGHES DELIVERS THREE ADDRESSES IN SAN FRANCISCO

Tells Union League Club of Coast City Protective Tariff Is Essential

SPEAKS TO WOMEN ABOUT PATRIOTISM AND IDEALS

Never in History of Country Was Definite Policy More Important Than Now

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
SAN FRANCISCO, August 19.—The train which brought Charles Evans Hughes, to this city at one o'clock yesterday afternoon, was met by thousands who wanted to get a look at the Republican presidential candidate. He was cheered when he appeared and at once became the center of a curious and enthusiastic crowd. His campaign engagements were pressing, however, and he lost no time at the Ferry Building.

In a conference with Progressive and Republican leaders of this state, Mr. Hughes limited his suggestions as to the conduct of the campaign to a earnest plea for hearty cooperation in the matter of the national issue, emphasizing his determination not to attempt in any way to influence the local situation. He said it was not his intention to intrude his ideas in this respect.

Addressing a distinguished gathering at the Union League Club, Mr. Hughes confined his remarks chiefly to the urgent need of a protective tariff. The attendance was such as strained the capacity of the club and the candidate was accorded the most attentive interest, hearing frequently interrupted by applause and ejaculations of approval.

Following the address at the Union League Club, the head of the Republican ticket appeared before a great meeting of women in the Palace Hotel. His speech on this occasion dealt with equal suffrage and Americanism, the speaker dwelling on what advantages of civilization would never accompany anything prominent in the way of progress. If America wished to stand for justice, enlightenment, advancement and all that her best patriots would have her represent, it was necessary that she take a determined stand against all that was unjust or inconsistent. Firm policies and determined leadership were essential to placing America in that position of leadership that she should occupy among the nations of the world. Never at any time in the history of the United States was it more necessary to have a definite policy and unswerving administration.

The candidate addressed an immense crowd at the great civic auditorium last night. He received a tremendous ovation.

Nation Must Be Patriotic
Mr. Hughes gave it as his conviction that, under proper leadership, it would be possible for the United States to attain those ideals for which the women were striving, but that a policy of vacillation would never accomplish anything prominent in the way of progress. If America wished to stand for justice, enlightenment, advancement and all that her best patriots would have her represent, it was necessary that she take a determined stand against all that was unjust or inconsistent. Firm policies and determined leadership were essential to placing America in that position of leadership that she should occupy among the nations of the world. Never at any time in the history of the United States was it more necessary to have a definite policy and unswerving administration.

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ASQUITH DECLARES FOR EQUAL RIGHTS

All Future Measures Involving Franchise Must Include Provisions For Women's Vote

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
LONDON, August 19.—Premier Asquith declared in the house of commons yesterday that it would be impossible during the period of the war to consider any undertaking involving a new franchise or registration reforms.

He implied by his statements that any new franchise bill brought up in the future must include women.

Formerly Asquith was considered one of the strongest forces against allowing women the vote, and his declaration in favor of equal suffrage was received as all the more significant for that reason.

BRITISH LOAN CLOSES ON ACCOUNT OF DEMAND

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
NEW YORK, August 18.—The syndicates wishing to participate in the new British loan have been so numerous that the books have been closed. Public subscriptions will be opened next week and already many applications have been received.

GERMAN EAST AFRICAN PORT TAKEN BY BELGIANS

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
LONDON, August 19.—Official dispatches report the capture and occupation of Port Karama, in German East Africa, by a brigade of Belgian troops.

KEEP IT HANDY

Immediate relief is necessary in the case of a person suffering from kidney trouble. Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are sold by all druggists and storekeepers at 50c a box (six boxes \$2.50), or will be mailed on receipt of price by the Hollister Drug Co., or Benson, Smith & Co. agents for the Hawaiian Islands. Advertisement

PRESIDENT VETOES MILITARY MEASURE

Exemption of Retired Officers From Trial By Court Marshal Is Objectionable

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
WASHINGTON, August 18.—Because of an objectionable clause which removed retired army officers from the discipline of court martial, President Wilson today vetoed the army appropriation bill after a conference with Secretary of War Baker. This point was forced into the bill by the conferees from the house of representatives, and has proved the undoing of the whole measure at this time.

Representative James Hay of Virginia, chairman of the committee on military affairs, immediately reintroduced the bill with the objectionable feature removed.

The revised articles of war, which had been incorporated in the bill, were also stricken by Chairman Hay.

The elimination of the "discipline" clause, it is thought, may cause complications, and will possibly delay the adjournment of Congress.

CAMPS AT BORDER SWEEP BY STORM

Troops of Regular Army and National Guard Are Driven From Their Posts

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
SAN ANTONIO, August 19.—Despatches from Corpus Christi yesterday announced the raging of a seventy-mile-an-hour gale, enduring for three hours before moderating, and believed to be the forerunner of a dreaded tropical storm in the Gulf of Mexico.

So far no fatalities have been reported, though a great deal of damage to property has been sustained. Bay front property has suffered to a large extent and much damage has been done to buildings at numerous summer resorts along the coast, many private homes also feeling the force of the storm. It is expected that the height of the gale has not yet been reached.

Reports from Brownsville, at the Mexican border, while meager, tell of great havoc wrought in the soldiers' camps by the fury of the wind. Troops of the regular army and national guardsmen stationed to guard the border from marauding Mexicans, have been driven from their quarters at Fort Brown and are taking refuge in the Brownsville city hall and other public buildings of that town.

For the greater part of yesterday a terrific wind prevailed, relighting somewhat toward evening. Last night it was reported that it was believed the worst of the big blow was over as far as that section was concerned.

IMPORTANT CHANGES IN JAPANESE ARMY

Commanding Generals of Military Divisions Are Switched About

(Special Cablegram to Hawaii Shipmo.)
TOKIO, August 18.—A number of important changes have been made in the Japanese war department as announced today. Gen. M. Kamino, commander-in-chief of the Tokyo defense, has been transferred to the war service.

Lieut. Gen. T. Mutsukawa, commander-in-chief of the sixteenth army division, has been promoted to commander-in-chief of the Tokyo defense. Lieut. Gen. Y. Akiyama, commander-in-chief of the imperial body guard, has been transferred to commander-in-chief of the army in Korea.

Lieut. Gen. T. Utsumiya has also been transferred from the seventh division to the 4th division.

IT NEVER CAME BACK

Only a person who has had a real kidney backache can know how wonderful it is to get relief from the lameness in the morning, the dull, all-day throbbing and the sharp stabbing pains when stooping or lifting.

How much more wonderful to be able to say later: "It never came back." Doan's Backache Kidney Pills have not only relieved many, many thousands of cases of kidney aches, but the good has usually been lasting. People testify after three, five, eight, ten and fifteen years that they never had an attack of kidney trouble again.

Doan's are equally good for other troubles that come from weak kidneys—Headache, irregularities, nervousness, rheumatic pains, gout, lumbago, dizzy spells, gravel and dropsy.

PAIA POSTOFFICE SCARCIAL BECOMES SOMEWHAT UNIQUE

While Authorities Here Have Situation 'Well In Hand' They Are Marking Time

MORRIS K. KEOKHOKALO STILL LINGERS ON COAST

Government Makes Good Postal Money-Orders To Japanese Amounting To \$1500

Paia postoffice, island of Maui, is scheduled for an investigation, but United States Postal Inspector Thomas Flavin is awaiting the return of Morris K. Keokhokalo, postmaster, before packing his grip and visiting the Valley Island to take up the threads of what clues there may be with reference to a number of postoffice money orders issued from that office for which money was not forwarded, and for which the federal authorities had to reissue orders to make good.

The return of Keokhokalo, of course, may straighten up the present unsatisfactory situation, but Keokhokalo, at the Hotel Stewart, in San Francisco, when last he communicated with Honolulu friends, may be away a week or two yet. In fact there has been no definite day set for his return. Others who attended the Republican and Democratic conventions have returned, but Morris is extending his sojourn in the mainland. He has been communicated with by the local postoffice officials and advised that there have been apparent indiscrepancies and evident mistakes in the Paia postoffice and his presence might clear up the situation. Within a day or two it is expected that a reply will be received from him.

Mainland Authorities Notified
As a matter of form, for the federal authorities are not respecters of persons, whether they be statesmen or newspaper boys, mainland postal authorities have been notified of the condition of affairs at the Paia postoffice and, consequently, the irregularities in connection with the issuance of money orders for which no money was received until the postoffice resumed the order, will be kept in mind until whoever is responsible is apprehended.

It was stated the other day that Japanese Consul-General Mori reported that certain money orders were missing from the Paia postoffice, that money orders had been purchased for transmission to persons abroad which money orders were not received. As a matter of fact the Japanese consul-general did not report the matter at all. Mr. Mori was made aware of the facts, through the complaints of Japanese who had bought money orders and whose friends or relatives, to whom they had addressed the money, had not received the cash. Mr. Mori took the matter up with the Honolulu postal chiefs and was so well assured that the whole affair would be thoroughly investigated that he gave no thought to making the matter public.

First Case Months Ago
It was not until one of the Paia Japanese victims undertook to write a letter to a Japanese newspaper that the affair became public. Then, as might have been expected, one Japanese newspaper copied it from another and soon the news was in the English papers. This was not particularly pleasing to the consul-general nor to the officials who had the case under investigation, but the thing had escaped from the sack, and there was nothing to do but declare that the facts were correct so far as certain Japanese having purchased money orders was concerned.

K. Azuta, a Japanese resident of Paia, Maui, reported as long ago as March of the present year concerning a money order which had been issued from the Paia postoffice in August of last year, when he purchased to send to his former home in Japan. On this there was no money forthcoming.

This was the first case brought to the attention of the Japanese consulate. The amount of the money order was \$350. It was reported that the person addressed never received the order. At once the consul took up the case with the territorial postal headquarters in Honolulu, the inspector in charge of the investigation.

On May 8, last, the postoffice reissued a money order for \$350, on behalf of Azuta and the matter was settled as far as the beneficiary was involved, though nothing developed in the line of bringing to book a guilty party, if any guilt existed.

Later eight other Japanese residents of Paia, between last May and July, made reports to the consulate that they had been made victims of the same kind of experience. The consul general advised them to send in their receipts for the money orders which had not been honored. Six of the eight have already forwarded their receipts. These were presented to Postal Inspector Flavin, who made notes of their dates, amounts and numbers.

"We believe," says the consul general, "that the postoffice authorities are doing their best to clear up the matter. We have no intention of personally taking the affair to the postmaster general in Washington. It was not even our intention to make the matter public, having confidence in the inspector and the rest of the local postal officials. Nobody knew anything about the case outside of persons identified with the consulate and members of the post office service until a little while ago when an open letter from a Paia victim appeared in a Japanese newspaper. Then we were called upon by representatives of the Japanese journals, and we told those gentlemen of what facts we had in our possession."

Postoffice Fully Advised
Inspector Flavin yesterday stated that the postoffice had been thoroughly advised of the facts and that an investigation was under way. He further said that he had been awaiting the return from the mainland of Postmaster Keokhokalo, that Keokhokalo, as Paia postmaster, would be called upon to explain, if he could, the state of affairs which had resulted in the money order troubles. He had written Keokhokalo and might soon receive a reply from him. The Paia postmaster, when last reported, was at the Hotel Stewart in San Francisco. He had been busy abroad with the Democratic convention and his friends expected him home soon.

While no charges have as yet been lodged against anybody connected with the Paia postoffice, it is known that all who have any knowledge of the affair of this office are under observation, here or elsewhere, and that the federal authorities are keeping in close daily touch with the situation.

Inspector Flavin said that there were some \$1500 of money orders yet to be explained since the original case of the \$350.

This amount includes one \$800 order purchased by S. Arakawa in October of last year, two orders of \$100 each, one for \$150 and one for \$50. Two commitments have not yet produced their receipts, but state that their orders were for \$100 each.

PRESIDENT YUAN HAD LARGE FAMILY

Thirty-five Trains Required To Carry Members and Possessions From Peking

(By The Associated Press.)
PEKING, July 10.—Thirty-five trains were required to carry Yuan Shi-kai's family and their possessions from Peking to the Yuan Shi-kai home at Changtehfu. The late president was known to have sixteen wives and it has been reported that the number was even greater. One paper is responsible for the statement that, in addition to his first wife, who is the legal wife under the Chinese laws, the late president had twenty-six others. Upon the birth of a son to one, a few months ago, it was officially announced that Yuan Shi-kai was the father of thirty-one children—sixteen sons and fifteen daughters.

Ever since Yuan Shi-kai's death, on June 6, his family have been sending their effects to their southern home, which will be their permanent residence. Trainloads of furniture, trunks and curios of all sorts were moved from the palace grounds, in the imperial city. A constant stream of two-wheel Peking carts has been hauling these possessions to the railway station.

Revolutionists' papers have complained bitterly of the manner in which the Yuan family stripped the palace of curios. It has been charged that the action of the wives and children of Yuan Shi-kai was nothing short of looting, as many of the curios they took were clearly government property and should not have been removed from the palace.

Many reports have been printed concerning violent rows in which the older sons of Yuan Shi-kai engaged concerning the division of their father's property. Yuan Koting, the eldest son, who is now about thirty-eight, and several of the other grown-up sons had decided differences as to the medical treatment which their late father should have, and are reported to have engaged in violent quarrels while he was lying at the point of death.

Many strange rumors concerning the various wives of the late president have been circulated among the superstitious and ignorant Chinese since Yuan Shi-kai's death. One rumor, which gained general circulation but is not credited by foreigners, is that the second wife killed herself after Yuan Shi-kai's death.

BIRTHDAY OF AUSTRIAN EMPEROR CELEBRATED

American Ambassador Attends Ceremonies in German Capital

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
BERLIN, August 19.—The eighty-sixth anniversary of the birth of Francis Joseph I, Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, was celebrated here yesterday, impressive services being held in St. Hedwig's church, the ceremonies being attended by many diplomats and military and naval officers of numerous nations.

Doctor von Bethmann-Hollweg was in attendance, as were also Doctor Helfferich, American Ambassador, Gerard, with naval and military attaches, and Swedish and Chinese diplomats.

The Austrian Emperor's birthday was observed with much demonstration both in this city and Vienna.

BRITAIN'S IRISH POLICY IS SEVERELY CRITICIZED

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
LONDON, August 18.—The Manchester Guardian, one of the influential English newspapers, in an editorial today declares that various influences, particularly Britain's policy regarding Ireland, is arousing the suspicion and resentment of the United States. The fact cannot be ignored, continued the editorial, that the active co-operation of the United States of America is necessary if a lasting peace is to be brought about by the formation of a league of the "liberal pacific powers of the world."

What facts we had in our possession, Postoffice Fully Advised

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ANGLO-FRENCH FORCES PRESS TEUTONS HARD IN BIG DRIVE

British Sweep Germans From Trenches Filled With Dead and Gather in Several Strong Positions Under Artillery Fire

GALLICS IN VERDUN SECTOR ALSO SUCCEED

Berlin Admits Some Losses, Attributing Them To Greater Strength of Foemen: Serbian Army Loses Town in Balkan Zone

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
LONDON, August 19.—Fresh and substantial gains were yesterday claimed by the Allies on the Somme front in spite of the fact that for several days the Germans have been bringing up additional heavy guns. A fierce thrust was made at the heart of the enemy positions, the forces of the advancing Anglo-French offensive vigorously attacking along the entire line from Pozieres to the Somme.

Notwithstanding extraordinary resistance the French have advanced into Maurepas, eastward of Hardcourt and Maricourt, and have gained considerable ground around the town.

Northward, the British have accomplished considerable gains in the vicinity of Ginchy and Guillemont. German Trenches Are Graves

Between Bazentin-le-Petit and Pozieres some of the most persistent battling, since the beginning of the long looked-for offensive by the Allies in the West started six weeks ago, occurred yesterday, the fury of the sustained engagement being clearly demonstrated when British infantry, following severe losses, came upon German trenches which had been wrecked by heavy guns, and found the great grooves from which the enemy had sent their rain of bullets, turned to crowded open graves, piled up dead, so effective and been the abode of preparing the way for the bayonets. In this sector, northwest of Bazentin-le-Petit the British gains were satisfactory.

Berlin dispatches yesterday admitted advances of the British in the direction of Martinpuich, north-east of Pozieres, stating that several fresh British divisions had been introduced into the fight north of the Somme. It is admitted that the first line of Teuton trenches along a narrow front south-west of the town of Martinpuich was captured, the German report declaring that they were ousted from this line by overwhelming numbers. Berlin claims that at other sectors of the battle front the attacks of the Allies were completely repulsed, except at Fleury, where the French are credited with gains.

French Maintain Offensive
The French offensive is being steadily maintained and gradual progress is being forced along the right bank of the Meuse in the Verdun region. Yesterday the attacks of the Allies were completely repulsed, except at Fleury, where the French are credited with gains.

Paris Reports Teuton Counterattacks
On the Somme, southeast of Maurepas, out they were repulsed. The fighting at Fleury still continues, the German garrison, driven from part of the town, making stubborn resistance, and no further appreciable gains being made by the French after their first onslaught and capture of a section of the village.

No Tidings From East
From the eastern front come no tidings of important significance concerning activities of the last twenty-four hours. There the situation is comparatively quiet. Teutonic efforts to hurl back the ever advancing Russian armies which are penetrating into Galicia have met with no success, resulting in fearful punishment to the Austro-German legions. In numerous sectors the Slavs keep up a steady if not speedy advance. Turkish troops are fighting with the Germans and Austrians in Galicia.

Southern Situation Unchanged
On the Austro-Italian front intermittent bombardments are being exchanged with no immediate further advantage to the Italian arms.

It is announced from Lisbon that the ministry yesterday gave official color to the statement that Portugal would soon enter the war on the side of the Allies.

SEVENTY-FOUR ALLIED VESSELS SUNK IN JULY

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless.)
BERLIN, August 18.—During July seventy-four hostile merchant ships of the Central Powers with 103,000 tons were sunk or lost by submarines and mines. On August 13 several German naval planes attacked hostile aeroplane stations in Papenburg and Lebern on Oesel and obtained good results. All returned unharmed in spite of violent shelling by defensive batteries and hostile sea forces.